

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATIONS, TED AND
LOIS WELLINGTON, ON 65TH
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2002

Mr. SCHIFF Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor two outstanding citizens of California's 27th Congressional District. Ted and Lois Wellington, life long residents of Burbank, California, celebrated their 65th Wedding Anniversary on March 27, 2002. Over their lifetime, both Lois and Ted have devoted themselves to the well being of the greater Burbank community.

Ted and Lois both attended Burbank public schools while growing up and met each other while attending Burbank High School. But it wasn't until Ted became the accountant in Lois's father's mechanic shop that they began dating. They were married on March 27, 1937 and remained in Burbank to raise their family. They raised two children in Burbank—Barbara "Dee" Erman of Placentia and Frederick "Rick" Wellington of San Gabriel. They are extremely proud of their two children and are also blessed to have four grandchildren: Michael, Lawrence, Edward, and Patrick, and two great grandchildren: Sean and Haley.

Over the years Ted has worked for Fox Studios, Lockheed, and he concluded his accounting career in the Los Angeles County Tax Assessor's office. Lois, while working for the City of Burbank Department of Water and Power, is one of the original founders of the Burbank Public Employees Association.

Lois's involvement in the community is not only limited to Burbank, she has served as the President of the Retired Public Employees Association, as the President of the Congress of California Seniors, as an officer for the International Seniors Council Association and as the Chair of the President's Council of the National Council of Senior Citizens. She is currently a Senator of the Silver Haired Congress.

Not to be outdone, Ted has been active in local, county, state, and national politics throughout his life. Locally he has been persistent in his attempts to attract young people to politics. And when Ted isn't reading, he is tending to his vegetable garden, which some say produces the best tomatoes in Burbank.

I would like all Members of the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Ted and Lois Wellington on their 65th Wedding Anniversary. They have truly shown devotion not only to each other but to their family and community as well.

BEAR RIVER MIGRATORY BIRD
REFUGE SETTLEMENT ACT OF 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM MATHESON

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 9, 2002

Mr. MATHESON. Mr. Speaker, rise today to give my whole-hearted endorsement and support for H.R. 3958, the Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge Settlement Act.

This bill provides more than just a mere settlement between the federal government and the State of Utah, it is a model of how state and federal interests can work together in order to protect our shared environment.

The Bear River Refuge is an ecological treasure. Surrounded by a desert and a brackish marsh, the Bear River is truly an oasis for thousands of birds. In 1843, explorer John C. Fremont visited the site and said that the sounds of waterfowl were like "a thunder, and the whole scene was animated with waterfowl."

The refuge, however, is threatened. In 1983 the Great Salt Lake breached its banks and flooded the fragile ecosystem of the refuge. The pristine waters became contaminated; microbes, plants, and animals were all put at risk.

The refuge is now on its way to recovery. There has been a concerted effort by the federal government and the state to remediate the damage caused and return the refuge to its prior condition.

That job has been complicated, not by the forces of nature but by the anachronistic ambiguities of lines of ownership between federal and state holdings. The lack of a meander line survey of the land has led to uncertainty of ownership within the refuge.

State and federal agencies are unsure of their jurisdiction, and that uncertainty has stymied the important environmental work that needs to be completed.

This \$15 million agreement would invest much needed resources into the continued protection of the refuge—\$10 million would be provided into a wetlands protection account. The remaining \$5 million will be used for development, improvement, and expansion of a trail system throughout the refuge.

This is a good deal for the United States, a great agreement for Utah, and important step in preserving a fragile ecosystem.

IMPORTANCE OF ORGAN
DONATION

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2002

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, after September 11th, Americans proved once again that they are the most compassionate and

generous people in the world through their financial generosity to the victims of the tragedy. Unfortunately, organ donors—Americans who sacrifice for others—are often overlooked. Organ transplantation is a unique medical procedure, since it relies on the kindness and compassion of others—often strangers—to save lives. Despite the generosity of thousands of donors, however, the supply of organs still falls short of the need.

Currently, there is a nationwide shortage of available and suitable organs for patients needing a transplant. Nearly 75,000 people are currently waiting to receive a transplant, and every 14 minutes another name is added to the list. In the last decade alone, the waiting list has grown by over 300 percent. Because of low donor rates, thousands of people die each year for lack of suitable organs.

Through his tragic death, the grandson of one of my constituents was able to give life and hope to many others. Corey had been involved with motorcycles since he was a small boy. He was riding at a motorcycle track, like he had done many times before, practicing with his new motorcycle. The cycle over-throttled and crashed into his best friend, who was riding a motorcycle in the opposite direction. Corey suffered immediate brain swelling and never recovered. But fortunately for others, Corey's parents chose to donate his organs and give others the gift of life. I would like to personally thank them for their gift and commend their great sacrifice in their own time of mourning.

Through a gracious letter from the donor services organization, Corey's family was able to learn how his gift was able to touch the lives of so many others. His heart went to a young 14-year-old in Alabama, who required a transplant due to a heart defect from birth. Corey's liver went to a 67-year-old mother from Virginia, and his pancreas to a 49-year-old mother of two from Tennessee.

Donation of a person's organs is a profoundly selfless act that should be respected and acknowledged. Out of Corey's donation, many lives were touched and many people now have hope that they might not have had otherwise. I would encourage all Americans to follow Corey's example and register to donate their organs so that others may live.

HONORING ACHIEVEMENTS AND
BIRTHDAY OF CESAR CHAVEZ

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2002

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the achievements and birthday this March 31st of the late Cesar Chavez, a true pioneer for workers and communities who rose to become one of our nation's—and world's—greatest advocates of nonviolent social change.

Cesar Chavez is best remembered for founding and leading the first successful farm

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